

with keeping the party's policies up to date, publicizing them and generally preparing for elections to come.

As the time for election approaches, they prepare and launch massive campaigns aimed at popularizing the party's policies and the personality of the leader. These campaigns reach their peak in the weeks immediately before an election as leaders scurry across the country, addressing meetings in large centres and visiting as many smaller places as possible for short speeches and personal meetings with individual voters.

Expenses

Canadian elections are expensive. The country is vast and many parts of it are sparsely populated. Yet, as far as is humanly possible, every voter, no matter where he lives, must be given a chance to mark a ballot.

Chief Electoral Officer J.M. Hamel expects to spend \$13,500,000 of public funds at the next election. That will be about \$1.25 for every voter. It will be spend in printing, salaries and fees of electoral officials, transportation -- all in order to enable the voters to record their decisions.

Campaign expenses by candidates and political parties will exceed several million dollars. These funds come from private sources, the candidates themselves, their friends and well-wishers, or from the supporters of the various parties.

Individual candidates must maintain records and, following the election, make a public declaration of the total amount of their electoral expenses. They are required to appoint official agents to receive all contributions and make all disbursements on their behalf. There is no limit to the amount of money they may spend. In recent elections, candidates' financial statements have shown expenses ranging from a few hundred to many thousands of dollars.

Large sums are also required to finance the general campaigns. These sums are disbursed by the central party organizations. They go for advertising in newspapers and other publications, radio and television broadcasts, printing and distribution of literature, travelling expenses of leaders, organizers, and other speakers, rental of rooms for campaign headquarters and of assembly places for meetings.

Immediately before and on election day the law imposes limits on campaigning and propaganda activities. Radio and television broadcasts in the interests of any party or candidate are prohibited on election day and the two days immediately before.

Premature publication of election results is prohibited. Owing to the variation in time zones, election results in Eastern Canada are known before voting ends in the far West. It is illegal to publish in any province, before the closing of the polls in that province, the result of the polling in any electoral district in Canada. This is intended to prevent voters in the West being influenced by indications that one party is winning or another is losing in the East.